Annual Report

on the

Health

of the

Borough of Tenterden

in 1897.

Census 1881		Census 1891	
Nº of Acres	8,490	Nº of Acres	8,490
Inhabited Houses	718	Inhabited Houses	718
Population	3,620	Population	3,429

The Population of the Borough of Tenterden was estimated by the method adopted by the Registrar General to be 3314 at the middle of 1897, showing a decrease of 18 since the middle of 1896.

This estimation assumes that the decrease in population which actually occurred between the Census of 1881 and that of 1891 has since been maintained.

One hundred and six Births were recorded, including 66 of males and 40 of females, giving a Birth-rate of 31.9 per 1,000 of population as compared with 28.8 in 1897 and 25.6 in 1895.

Fifty deaths were registered, which included 27 of males and 23 of females.

Nine of these deaths occurred at the Workhouse.

The Death-rate was more than usually low being only 12.9 per 1,000 of population as compared with 13.5 in the previous year.

It is most satisfactory, and I believe altogether unique, that not a single death was caused by any of the seven principal Zymotic Diseases, and the Zymotic Death-rate was consequently 0.0.

1.

The Infant Mortality i.e. the number of deaths of infants under one year of age per each 1,000 registered births was also very low, being only 75 as compared with 83 in the previous year.

During the year 1897 the birth-rate throughout England and Wales was 29.7, the general death-rate 17.4 and the Zymotic death-rate 2.15 per 1,000 of population.

The rate of mortality among infants under one year of age to 1,000 registered births was 156.

Notifiable Diseases.

Under the provisions of the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889, 5 cases only were reported during the year, and included 4 cases of Scarlet Fever and one of Erysipelas.

Scarlet Fever.

All the four cases of Scarlet Fever occurred in the High Street and it speaks well for the care with which these cases were isolated at home that the disease did not spread. Three occurred in the month of August, and one in September. Two were children aged 4 years and the remainder males aged 14 and 27 years respectively.

Erysipelas. The only case occurred at St Michaels Terrace in the month of July.

Non-notifiable Diseases.

None of the Zymotic Diseases coming under the above heading caused any deaths during the year, the Borough being free from deaths due to Measles, Whooping-cough and Diarrhoea.

Influenza caused one death in May, that of a man aged 65 years.

It was not found necessary to recommend the closure of any of the Elementary Schools during the year.

The only other matter to which I have to draw your attention is the water supply of the Borough, which cannot be regarded as satisfactory.

The Circular Letter, recently issued by the Local Government Board fully deals with the desirability of providing a wholesome and adequate supply and I would ask your Council to give the matter your serious consideration.

Mr Skinner's Report of work done during the year, the

customary tables and returns required by the Local Government Board are appended.

I have the honor to be
Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant
James Scott Tew.

March 2nd/97 1898.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

https://archive.org/details/b30181409

List of work done during the year 1897.

New drains supplied	10
" branch sewers	2
Drains repaired	2
New traps	2
Traps to Sewers	4
Overcrowding abated	2
Water supplied	1
New W.Cs	1
" Ashbin	1
" Paths	1
Foul accumulations removed	3
Animals found in a foul state	1

Joseph Skinner
Inspector.

Table I.

The number of Deaths from all causes and from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases with their Death-rates; the principal causes of Death and the Infant Mortality in each Quarter of 1897 in the Tenterden Urban District.

Quarters	Total Deaths	Death-rate per 1,000	Deaths from 7 principal Zymotic Diseases	Zymotic Death-rate	Small-pox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Membranous Croup	Enteric Fever	Puerperal Fever	Erysipelas	Measles	Whooping Cough	Diarrhoea	Phthisis	Bronchitis Pneumonia Pleurisy	Heart Disease	Influenza	Injuries	All other Diseases	Deaths of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 Births
1st	11	12.0	0	0.0	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	1	4	.	.	4	117
2nd	14	13.2	0	0.0	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	3	3	1	.	6	79
3rd	8	8.4	0	0.0	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	.	1	4	64
4th	17	18.2	0	0.0	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	1	3	.	.	11	50
Totals	50	12.9	0	0.0	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	5	5	13	1	1	25	75

Table II

Deaths from Zymotic Diseases during the past ten years and in 1897.

Zymotic Diseases	1887	1888	1889	1890	1891	1892	1893	1894	1895	1896	Average of ten years	1897
Small-pox	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	0.0	0
Scarlet Fever	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	0.1	0
Diphtheria	4	.	.	.	.	5	.	.	1	1	1.1	0
Fevers	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	0.1	0
Measles	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	0.2	0
Whooping-Cough	.	2	.	.	5	.	1	.	4	.	1.2	0
Diarrhoea	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	1	2	1	0.6	0
Total of Zymotics	4	2	1	.	7	6	1	1	7	4	3.3	0
Other Zymotics	2	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	1	.	0.5	1
Totals	6	2	1	0	7	6	3	1	8	4	3.8	1

Annual Report

on the

Health

of the

Borough of Tenterden

in 1897

by

James Scott Tew M.D.D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.